

The American Sugar Refining Company has just paid to the Government \$2,134,411 of duties which it had stolen from the Government during a period of a decade or thereabouts.

The company (the Sugar trust) fought the Government's case as far as possible, employed every technicality known to the law, and was beaten. Every consumer of sugar in the United States ought to read the article in The Outlook of May 1 on "The Case of the Seventeen Holes," in which is told the story of how the Sugar trust fixed the scales over which the sugar was weighed at the great Havemeyer & Elder Refinery, in Brooklyn, so that they should reduce the apparent weight from 25 to 100 pounds on each 1,000 pounds of sugar. By this process the trust saved itself the duty on this amount of sugar.

Every scale on the great receiving dock of the plant—seventeen of them in all—was equipped to rob the Government in this manner. Nobody knows how much was stolen in duties while the system operated. It is known that the Sugar trust has paid over \$2,000,000 as a result of a stipulation with the Government. Criminal cases will be pressed by the Government, it is announced, against the individuals, officials, employees, etc., who were responsible for the frauds.

This is the most astounding revelation of petty thievery in a long time. The story of how the Union Pacific railroad stole its coal lands from the Government is by contrast a big, noble, manly, Robin Hood sort of scheme with a touch of romance to it. But this performance by which the Sugar trust stole from the Government which, by dint of tariff favors, makes the Sugar trust and its gorge of profits possible, is merely mean and sneaking and contemptible.

It is just as well to remember that sugar in this country has always had a good deal of the criminal tendency in it; sugar, that is, which had got aggregated into power and position. Back in 1879 Henry Alvin Brown conducted a crusade against the "sugar ring," as he called it, and charged and proved that the sugar importers had for many years systematically robbed the Government at the custom houses by false grading of sugar. They sneaked it into ports as of one grade, when in fact it was on another which would have paid higher duty. Brown declared that the "sugar ring"—the name and corporate organization of the present trust had not then been invented for it, but the morals were identical—had stolen over \$12,000,000 from the Government.

This revelation of 1907 and the Brown revelation of 1879 have peculiar interest just now, because they seem somewhat to discredit the character of the sugar monopoly of this country. If the Sugar trust will steal—and it has confessed that it might lie. And if it lies, it may have lied when it claimed that it needed the protection of \$1.90 on raw sugar, which the Aldrich-Payne bill proposes.

It is passing strange that this convicted criminal trust can continue to get away with its tariff goods, and nobody appear even concerned about it. The Sugar trust demands protection for its refined sugar because it pays a duty on the raw—and then we discover that it sneaks around that duty on the raw!

It sends the beet sugar cohorts here to make its fight for a duty—and we develop the fact that the trust owns 51 per cent in the biggest and most influential of the beet sugar corporations!

It gets 20 per cent concession from regular tariff rates on Cuban sugar, "to help Cuba"—and then we find that it helps Cuba not by benefits the American consumer.

Other businesses find themselves sufferers from bad times and depressed business conditions. But how about the Sugar trust?

In 1906, the top year of prosperity, the average New York price of granulated sugar was 4.52 cents per pound. In 1907, when the sag had begun and prosperity was not so strong, and other people began to feel the pinch—the trust was able to raise the price to 4.65 cents.

And in 1908—the climactic year of depression—it was further boosted to 4.96 cents.

Once more it is urged that this convicted sneak-thief of industry, this

bloated infant protégé of the tariff, ought to be pried away from its tariff seat and the consumer given something like decent treatment.

### THE NEW BUILDING REGULATIONS MUST REGULATE.

A commission to revise, edit, and rearrange the building regulations of the District of Columbia was created by the District Commissioners three years ago. That act was largely the fruit of activity on the part of this newspaper. It did not come too soon, for not only were the regulations of that day scattered, contradictory, and obscure, but they were in substance antiquated.

Not less than a year ago the first section of this special report was transmitted to the District Commissioners. At brief intervals, since, the other sections have been submitted. With amendments—many of them more than questionable in the judgment of this newspaper—these sections have been adopted one by one. The last has now been approved. But there has not been at any time any copies of any section which could be examined by any two builders, or any copy of certain sections which could be examined by any one builder, with confidence that what he read was the law under which he must work.

The news now is that the whole report is to be published. This newspaper does not imagine from what has been printed of the sections, one by one, that the new regulations will be abreast of those in force of the most progressive cities of the world. But it does believe that they will be far and away better than those in force three years ago and the best the special commission could hope to have sustained by the board of District Commissioners as "not extreme." So much has been gained and The Times rejoices that it did what it could to further the gain.

But the work must not stop here. The Commissioners owe it to themselves, as to the house-owners and renters of the District, to see that these regulations shall regulate. In other words, the new code must not be amended save in the face of clear and general need.

Many an investor has gone to the District building, under the old rules, obtained a concession that amounted to a virtual supercession of certain sections of the law, and come away to laugh in his sleeve. There must be no more of that. Neither can there be any amendment of the regulations without full inquiry; a hearing from all classes interested; and—most important of all—abundant notice. The answer may be made that this has always been done. All right. The important thing now is that it shall be done today and in the future. The new regulations should be amended only at stated periods, not oftener than twice a year.

Finally, the Commissioners should give particular attention to that provision of the report which provided that the office of the Inspector of Buildings should be made self-supporting. They have approved and had enacted into law a sliding scale of charges for the supervision of buildings according to the work required of the inspector's force. But the reform has been side-tracked at that way station. The fees now go into the treasury of the District, to be allotted to the office of the inspector, or to the skimming of the scum from the surface of the James Creek Canal, or to whatever other use Congress may determine.

### THE REAL JOY IN THE BIRTH OF HOLLAND'S PRINCESS.

Holland has a successor to the throne. Only a girl she is, in the Chinese phrase, but the Dyke Kingdom is happy now in a ruler who also is only a girl. And the little Queen promises to live long to the happiness of all her people.

There will be much rejoicing that a line of succession has been established. But that, we think, will not be the great joy in the heart of the ruler. Today, and tomorrow, and every day through all this princess' life with her mother, we think another feeling will possess the heart of the little Queen. It will not be an attribute of rank. It will find parallel, indeed, in the humblest home in all Holland. It will have power to shut out all the cares of government and the fetters of ceremony. It will be that love which sweetens the whole world and spiritualizes all mankind, the love that makes the mother—as the poet Coleridge has said—the holiest thing alive.

It is still believed that if the Sugar trust continues in the limelight which beats about the criminal courts, some statesman may yet work up enough interest in its performances to suggest delicately the possibility of withdrawing a bit of the Government's largesse to that enterprising concern.

One satisfaction about a rainy day is that it saves the team from slipping any farther down the percentage toboggan.

Manifestations of popular sentiment in the immediate neighborhood of the late Sultan's retreat in Salonika indicate the possibility of a massacre taking place which would be a serious strain on the regretting apparatus of good people.

### Capital Tales

LONG memories are quite numerous about the Senate. A good deal of wonder was expressed the other day after a speech by the blind Senator Gore from Oklahoma, at his remarkable memory for facts and figures. He is not alone in this, however, as some of his colleagues are gifted in the same direction. Senator Depew of New York, despite his age, has a capacious memory. Some time ago he was delivering an eulogy of great length in the Senate. He had prepared it carefully in advance, had it printed, and delivered it from memory. Those who followed him with the printed copy at hand declared afterwards that he did not vary a word from the copy, though he did not once refer to it.

Senator Daniel of Virginia has a good memory, and it is of political service to him. He is said to know practically every ex-Confederate soldier in Virginia by name, as well as a large part of the rest of the population. When Senator Burdett of Nebraska was in the House it used to be said he knew the name of every voter in his district. Senator Iowa has a marvelous memory, and, being an omnivorous reader of the best literature, he can quote whole passages from works in which the ordinary individual is apt to be little versed. Dulliver's father was a Methodist circuit-riding minister, and in his early days Dulliver got an acquaintance with the Scriptures that he never will forget. He is long on quotations from the Good Book.

Senator La Follette is another Senator who can remember things. He is a great student of Shakespeare, and can repeat some of the Shakespeare plays from start to finish. Senators Hard To Please. It's impossible to please all the Senators. When Superintendent Elliott Woods of the Capitol Building and Grounds bought two nice new automobiles for the Senate subway, he supposed everybody but Senator Bailey who is the champion of the horse, would like them. Now, it develops a number of Senators better than they say they need the exercise given them by the jaunt between the Capitol and the Senate office building. Senator Talliferro always walks and so do a number of others. Senator Aldrich not only walks as a rule but he scurries through the subway, preferring to walk above ground and get some fresh air.

SENATOR McCUMBER of North Dakota, in preparing to deliver his speech on lumber, had a number of lumber samples piled up at the foot of his desk, making the region about the desk look something like a lumber yard. It is not often that a member of Congress attempts a demonstration of his remarks in this fashion, but it is done occasionally. One of the most amusing instances of the kind was afforded some years ago by Senator Tillman when he made a speech to the Senate on the kinds of rural free delivery boxes and how they should be used. The farmers were being imposed on. He had a lot of samples of these boxes at his desk, and showed them to the Senate, and commented on the various kinds of boxes in his own inimitable way.

Representative "Jim" Mann of Illinois one day gave the House a remarkable exhibition of food products to illustrate the need of a pure food law. Senator Dulliver exhibited some oil samples to the Senate on one occasion to show the need of legislation to protect the butter interest. Representative Dawson of Iowa is another member of Congress, who has taken to the same line. He has a small table set up in his office, and he has a collection of biological specimens to show the need of legislation to protect the fish and game interest.

Charles MacVeagh, of New York, a son of Mr. and Mrs. Wayne MacVeagh, arrived in Washington this afternoon, and is the guest for the week-end of Mr. Phillips, the Third Assistant Secretary of State, William Phillips.

### Annual Bazaar.

The annual bazaar and luncheon for the benefit of the Georgetown University Hospital will be held May 15, 19 and 20 in the Old St. Matthews' Church, in Georgetown, under the auspices of the Sisters of St. Francis and the board of lady managers of the hospital, assisted by a number of society women. Mrs. Annie Murphy will be in charge of the fancy work booth, Mrs. William F. Byrnes is chairman of the luncheon committee, and Mrs. George Tully is chairman of the committee of attractive young ladies. Mrs. George Tully, Mrs. William Hardesty, will preside at the tea tables, and Mrs. William Cogan and Miss Riggs will have charge of the cake table. Miss Agnes Murphy will be in charge of the refreshment table, and Miss Ready and Mrs. Stohlman will have charge of the ice-cream.

The trustees of the Southern Congress, of which Mr. Dan is managing director, have been kind enough to allow the use of the old church, which is now owned by the Southern Congress.

### To Be Maid of Honor.

Miss Elizabeth Kibbey, who left Washington several days ago for Elgin, Ill., will act as maid of honor at the wedding of Miss Marjorie Hunter, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George N. Hunter, to Norton Van Sicken, of St. Charles, Ill. The wedding takes place this evening in the First Universal Church of Elgin, the Rev. E. S. Cleveland officiating.

### Will Give Warning OF AN EARTHQUAKE

Italian Invents Machine That Will Record Shocks in Advance.

SIENNA, Italy, May 1.—A machine that will give a few minutes' warning of the approach of an earthquake is rapidly nearing completion, according to a statement today from Father Maggioni, director of the Sienna observatory, the inventor of the device. The type shocker built in the Sienna province on April 11, were recorded, Father Maggioni says, four minutes before they were felt by the people. Father Maggioni says there is no doubt but his invention will minimize the future loss of life from earthquakes.

### POTOMAC DRIVE CONCERT

This Afternoon at 5 o'clock.

BY UNITED STATES MARINE BAND.

William H. Santelmann, Leader.

## MR. AND MRS. ROBERT GOELET ARRIVE TO VISIT SENATOR AND MRS. ELKINS

Guests of Honor at Informal Dinner Party This Evening.

Miss Williams to Entertain This Afternoon at Tea.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Goelet, of New York, have arrived in Washington, and are the guests of Senator and Mrs. Elkins. Mrs. Goelet was formerly the beautiful Miss Elsie Whelan, of Philadelphia.

Katherine Elkins will entertain a party informally at dinner this evening in honor of Mr. and Mrs. Goelet.

Miss Caroline Williams will be hostess at a tea this afternoon from 4 to 6 o'clock in her home on N street.

### "Frat" Dance.

Theta Nu Epsilon Fraternity of the Bliss Electrical School held a dance last evening in the lecture hall at Takoma Park. The hall was beautifully adorned with palms and branches of spring blossoms. The walls were adorned with pendants of the various schools and colleges, the green and black pendants of the Theta Nu Epsilon being the predominant ones. The music for the dancers was furnished by the MacPherson and McCall Orchestra, of Boston.

The members of the fraternity are C. W. Bagg, S. E. Bramwell, H. S. Brunner, C. S. Burns, G. H. Caldwell, J. L. Drew, H. E. Fox, S. S. Hunsinger, C. H. Jennings, Jr., S. McCallister, F. H. MacPherson, H. F. McCall, N. Moore, R. Moran, S. R. Newman, W. W. Zinkle, E. F. Snaer and H. T. Sinner.

Among the guests were Miss Warren, Miss C. E. Graves, Miss T. M. C. Brown, Miss Watkins, Miss Burdett, Miss Gorch, Miss Van Houten, Miss Parson, Miss Burns, Miss Barton, Miss Blake, Miss Taylor, Miss Longly, Miss Brahm, Miss Lincoln, Miss Clark, Miss Burns, Miss Barton, Mr. Mattingly, Mr. Phillips, Mr. Prince, Mr. Henderson, Mr. Brown, Mr. Burdett, Mr. Cady and Mr. Huddleston.

Mrs. Weeks, wife of Representative Weeks, will entertain a party at bridge this afternoon.

Baroness von Paumgarten and Baroness Marie von Paumgarten left Washington this morning for Annapolis, where they will spend several days.

Mrs. Fremont, wife of Capt. John C. Fremont, will leave Washington next week for Philadelphia, where she will be the guest of her mother, Mrs. Anderson, for several days.

John J. Duff, who spent several days in Philadelphia last week, has returned to Washington.

Mrs. Stanley, wife of Major D. S. Stanley, U. S. A., will be hostess at a small tea this afternoon at her home on Nineteenth street.

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Mrs. John T. Wheelwright, who was formerly Miss Mabel McMillan, of Washington, has returned to her home in Boston, after a visit of several weeks in Washington.

General and Mrs. Gillespie will leave Washington Monday for New York, where they will stay until May 12, when they sail for Europe. They will not return to Washington until October.

### GIRLS TO REPEAT PLAY AT FESTIVAL

Celebration at Neighborhood House Will Close This Evening.

Today is the closing day of the most successful festival ever held at Neighborhood House, 456 and 468 N street southwest. Although the skies have looked threatening, the weather has not yet interfered with the outdoor performances of the boys, and crowds of people have come to witness the plays and visit the industrial exhibits.

By special request "Hansel and Gretel" will be given tonight at 8 o'clock. The little play has been adapted from the German folk tale by Mrs. Eugenia Paul Jefferson and is presented by a cast of ten little girls. Today it has been given only in the afternoon, but the audiences have been so appreciative and the requests so many that it will be repeated tonight.

Supper is served at 6 o'clock to accommodate persons desiring to come in the afternoon and stay through the evening. The ice cream, homemade cake, and refreshments are being given in great demand, and much interest has been expressed by all the visitors in the remarkable exhibits of baskets, rugs, and household articles made by the children's clubs.

### POVERTY.

A woman wouldn't mind being poor so much if all her acquaintances were just a little poorer.—Chicago News.



MRS. ROBERT GOELET, Of New York.

### In Presidential Box.

The President and Mrs. Taft occupied the Presidential box at the Belasco Theater last evening to see E. H. Sothern in "Lord Dunsinore." Among their guests were Mrs. Edwards, a sister of the President, and Mr. and Mrs. John Hays Hammond.

Miss Elizabeth Wolcott Parker, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Richard Wayne Parker, was hostess at a box party, in compliment to her house guest, Miss Dorothea Baldwin, of Savannah, Ga. Miss Parker entertained her guests at supper after the play. Her guests were Commander and Mrs. Walter Gherard, Miss Harriet Vadsow, Miss Yule Noble, Captain Cheney, Captain Logan, W. D. Straight, William Phillips, Frederick Brooke, and Sherman Miles.

Others in the boxes were Mrs. George Fullman, Representative and Mrs. Lowden, the Danish Minister and Countess Molke, Mr. and Mrs. Nathaniel Simpkins, Miss Faith Simpkins, Col. and Mrs. John Child Anderson, of New York, N. S. Lincoln, Miss Lincoln, the Misses Southernland, Postmaster General Hitchcock, Mrs. Charles S. Bromwell, Mrs. Frederick Keep, Mr. and Mrs. Longworth, Mrs. Grant Duff, Miss Padelford, Mr. and Mrs. James Harlan, Judge John Child Anderson, of New York, Katherine Elkins, Miss Eleanor Perry, and William Hitt.

Capt. and Mrs. John C. Fremont were hosts at dinner last evening in honor of their house guest, Mrs. Frederick A. M. of New York. The additional guests were Representative and Mrs. J. Van Vechten Olcott, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Cleveland Perkins, and Mrs. Arthur C. Child Anderson, of New York, and Lieut. John C. Fremont, jr.

### Go To Bar Harbor.

Capt. and Mrs. William H. H. Southard have taken a cottage at Bar Harbor, Me., for the summer. They will leave Washington about the first of June, and will be accompanied by their daughters, the Misses Southard.

Dr. and Mrs. William J. Pettus, of Connecticut, will close their Washington house and go to their place at Chevy Chase next week for the spring months.

A large party of young people left Washington this morning for Annapolis, where they will spend the week end. The party included Miss Marjorie Alesha and Miss Annie Irwin, who were chaperoned by Mrs. William Manning Irwin; Miss Agnes Magruder, of New York, who were chaperoned by Mrs. Benjamin Reeves Russell; Miss Vera Downing and Miss Isabel Magruder.

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March, "Thomas Jefferson." Santelmann

Overture, "Tannhauser." Wagner

Valse Lento, "Vision." von Blon

Scenes from "Faust." Gounod

## WATCHDOG'S PLACE SOON TO BE FILLED

Aspirants Are Numerous for the Position of Commissioner.

### OFFICE CONSIDERED AN IMPORTANT ONE

President and Secretary Nagel Using Much Care in Selecting Right Man.

By JOHN SNURE.

Within the next ten days or two weeks it is expected here that the appointment will be announced of a commissioner of immigration for New York to succeed Robert Watchorn, who has been forced out. This office is looked on by President Taft and Secretary Nagel, of the Department of Commerce and Labor as one of great importance, and they are casting about for the right man for the job, regardless of whether he is from New York or elsewhere.

Numerous aspirants want the position, among them men well-known in Washington and in New York. James Bronson Reynolds is strongly interested for the place. Reynolds, the man who helped Charles P. Neill investigate conditions in the packing houses, is understood not to be seeking the place, but he has many friends who think he is the right man for the job. The President thinks well of Reynolds, and he is being given serious consideration.

Secretary Whipple, of the New York Republican county committee, is a candidate and has strong backing. Representative Herbert Parsons, chairman of the committee, is supporting Mr. Whipple. Marcus Braun, who has long done special work in the immigration service and who made important investigations in Austria-Hungary and other European countries aspires to the office. Terence V. Powderly, chief of the division of immigration, is also a candidate. Another man who is prominently mentioned is William Williams, who was commissioner of immigration at New York before Watchorn.

### Billings Mentioned.

Still another who is under consideration is Commissioner Billings, of the Boston Immigration office. Mr. Billings has made a good record, and, in spite of the number of candidates for the New York post, he is considered a talk that he will be transferred and promoted to the Ellis Island position. Just now, Joseph Murray is acting immigration commissioner, but he will not be promoted to the commissionership.

The question of the succession to Watchorn is being watched closely here and elsewhere, because much depends on the way the immigration laws are enforced at Ellis Island. The great bulk of the immigrants enter the country there. Organized labor is greatly concerned about the sort of a commissioner who is appointed for New York, because the laws of the immigration laws are strictly enforced, and particularly under rigid enforcement of the contract labor provisions of the law. The immigration Restriction League of Boston is taking a hand in the matter, and is insisting that a strong man be placed in charge at Ellis Island. It is contended that a weak man will be dominated by the steamship companies, and that a man must be had who will enforce the laws as they stand.

### Changes Probable.

Secretary Nagel is thoroughly impressed with the importance of the commissionership at New York, and he is looking into conditions at Ellis Island carefully on his own account. Mr. Nagel was opposed to the retention of Watchorn. He has been in charge of the investigation made by Herbert Knox Smith, and concluded Watchorn ought not to be retained. It is talked here that before many months Mr. Nagel will make other changes in the personnel at Ellis Island, and that there is likely to be some change in the commissioner. "It connection with immigration matters," it develops that strong efforts are being made to secure the passage of the Overman amendment to the tariff bill which would increase the head tax on immigrants to \$12. It is now believed that the Overman amendment would add about \$10,000,000 to the revenue and that it would tend to strict immigration also. It would tend to prevent the practice of foreign laborers entering this country for the purpose of working a part of a season, and then returning to their native lands. Organized labor is anxious to have the Overman amendment passed. The Immigration Restriction League is working for it. Friends of the amendment think it may be passed by Congress.

When it was first proposed, the very serious attention was given it, but its friends are now saying that the law is disposed of, it will have to be taken seriously.

### In the Mail Bag

To the Editor: An ominous incident the other day, that is, the request of a Senator to have the hoisery schedule suspended, draws the inference that higher rates of duty may be again injected into the Payne bill, affecting hosiery and gloves. Being one of those who believe in a protective tariff, I am also one of the multitude desiring justice, and, knowing that the tariff is being raised 6.65 per cent, are already sufficiently high and that consumers should not be required to pay greater prices for gloves or hosiery. I suggest that all department stores furnish a written pre-text to Congress, which visitors be requested to sign and that these petitions be sent to the Senate Committee. The publicity of the press will materially help. May I look for your acknowledgment?

Yours truly, A. LISNER.

To the Editor of The Washington Times: The Times is winning the support of the general public for its advocacy of measures wherein the people, as a whole, are vitally interested. The fight for reduction in the price of gas has brought forth a great deal of interest. Will you not kindly explain editorially why the Marine Band concerts were discontinued at the White House, and Saturday at the hot asphalt neighborhood, and the huge building warmed off the rays of the hot summer sun. The same conditions as to access and shade, with the addition of pretty surroundings, prevail at the White House. There is absolutely no shade around the band stand on the Potomac Drive, and the tramp out there on a sweltering summer evening on the hot asphalt roads is not inviting to pedestrians, and the face is in token to many if the one available of holding up a line, too, that does not accept or give transfers to other lines. Very respectfully, MRS. WILLIAM MOORE.